

**Smart ticket**

2238. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ASI has now decided to embrace the 21<sup>st</sup> century by opting for a smart ticket;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the aims and objectives for such a move?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal to introduce "Smart Ticket" at centrally protected monuments by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

**Development of Khatkadmakan as Tourist destination**

†2239. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have developed/decided to develop the ancestral village called Khatkadmakan of immortal Martyr Bhagat Singh as a Tourist destination;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for not taking initiatives by Government to celebrate the 100th birth anniversary of the great martyr Bhagat Singh as centenary year; and

(d) whether Government will formulate any special scheme to immortalize the memory of this great patriot and martyr?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An amount of Rs. 35.39 lakh has been sanctioned during the year 2006-07 for Khatkadmakan town under the Project-Integrated Development of 'Freedom Trail Punjab Tourism Circuit' in the State of Punjab for Central Financial Assistance of Rs. 784.45 lakh. The component of Khatkadmakan Town covers leveling of internal roads, pathways, drains,

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

sewer, landscaping, solid waste management, signages, site interpretation, refurbishment of historic house and visitor amenities etc.

(c) and (d) A National Committee under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister to commemorate (i) 150th Anniversary of the First War of Independence, 1857; (ii) 60th Anniversary of Indian Independence; (iii) Centenary Celebration of Adoption of Vande Mataram as National Song, (iv) 75th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of Shaheed Bhagat Singh; and (v) Birth Centenary of Shaheed Bhagat Singh has been constituted along with a National Implementation Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Arjun Singh, Minister of Human Resource Development.

### **Development of Tourism in Rajasthan**

2240. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are various tourist spots in different parts of the desert State of Rajasthan, which do not attract many tourists due to lack of proper connectivity;

(b) if so, the details thereof and what steps are being taken by Government to get these places connected to mainstream areas;

(c) whether any proposals for projects pertaining to development of tourism received from the State Government of Rajasthan are pending for consideration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when these are likely to be cleared?

The MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government has submitted proposals for Ajmer Sharif, Jaisalmer, Heritage Festival, Rajasthan Day Celebration, Pushkar Fair and Desert Festival.

Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Ministry, of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations for Tourism' related projects which are identified in consultation and interaction with them under schemes for integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/Infrastructure Development of Destinations and Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects.